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THE GARDEN CALENDAR

JUL 11 1937  
U. S. Department of Agriculture

A brief radio talk by W. R. Beattie, Bureau of Plant Industry, delivered in the Department of Agriculture period of the National Farm and Home Hour, Tuesday, July 6, 1937.

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This morning I received a letter from a member of the Farm and Home Hour family which reads: "Will you please send me some information in regard to tomato plants. The leaves curl and get brown, the plants look poorly". This is just one of the many letters of its kind that I've received within the past two weeks. To begin with there are at least three distinct types of tomato diseases. One, the wilt disease, which causes the entire plant to wilt and die rather suddenly. This disease lives over in the soil and the remedy is to plant on new land or to use the wilt resistant varieties such as Pritchard and Marglobe. The second group are the mosaic diseases that cause a yellowing or mottling of the stems and leaves. The third group, the leaf diseases, especially the leaf spot, early blight and late blight, are the ones that are causing growers the most concern at this time and they are especially troublesome during periods of moist rainy weather. The remedy, or rather the prevention, is to spray the plants with bordeaux mixture, beginning before the diseases gain headway and repeating the spraying at about 10-day intervals. You can either purchase the ready prepared bordeaux in the powdered form and add water as directed on the package or you can make your own bordeaux. The formula is too long to remember, so I won't repeat it but, let me say that the formula, and other useful information on tomatoes are given in Farmers' Bulletin No. 1338 on tomatoes as a truck crop. We will be glad to send you a copy. Simply address a post card to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., write the number of the bulletin Farmers' Bulletin No. 1338 on the card or if you forget the number of the bulletin simply write "tomato diseases" on the card and be sure to have your name and address plainly written or printed, mail the card and the bulletin will reach you in a few days.

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